Adarsh Mahavidyalayas. Further, two Deemed Universitites, i.e. Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, (New Delhi) and Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, (Tirupati) impart education at various levels through the medium of Sanskrit and offer facilities for research.

Besides, under the Central Plan Scheme of Development of Sanskrit Education, fiancial assistance to Deemed Universities is also given to improve the methodology of teaching Sanskrit.

In addition CBSE offers Sanskrit as one of the elective subjects as one of the languages. At the school level, about 1.17 lakh students now offer Sanskrit as an elective subject at the secondary level in CBSE schools. Board has also introduced communicative approach to teach Sanskrit in all schools after testing it as a pilot project last year.

(b) Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi, started a one year course in Sanskrit Language and Sanskrit Literature in the academic year 2000-01 and a short term course in Vastu Shastra in 2001-02. In addition, 435 Sanskrit speaking centres have been set up by University Grants Commission in various colleges and institutions.

(c) These courses have been started because there was a demand for them and will give opportunity for higher studies, research work and teaching in Sanskrit.

Regional Engineering Colleges

3606. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Regional Engineering Colleges in the country indicating their locations, State-wise;

(b) the scheme of their financing/funding;

(c) whether Government have recently decided to accord Deemed University Status to some of these RECs;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(e) the advantages/benefits/privileges of gaining aforesaid status by RECs;

(f) whether there would be any change in funding/financing and if so, the details thereof; and

(g) what are the reasons for not according the aforesaid status to remaining RECs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) The names of Regional Engineering Colleges in the country along with their locations are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Regional Engineering Colleges (RECs) are joint ventures of the Central Government and the State Government concerned. The recurring expenditure in respect of Under Graduate Courses are shared by the Central Government and State Government concerned on 50:50 basis. The expenditure on account of Non-Recurring as well as Recurring expenditure on Post Graduate Courses is met entirely by the Central Government.

(c) and (d) Declaration of an institution as Deemed to be University is a statutory process and would require fulfilling several procedural requirements. On fulfillment of these requirements the RECs can be accorded Deemed to be University status.

(e) On getting the status of Deemed to be University the RECs will be in a position to award their own degree and enjoy greater autonomy and freedom to design, develop and upgrade their academic programmes in line with the changing socio-economic and industrial scenario.

(f) the institution notified as Deemed to be University shall continue to receive the funds for their maintenance and development expenditure from the same funding sources prior to such recognition and supplement them by raising their own resources.

(g) 17 RECs have applied for grant of Deemed to be University status. University Grants Commission (UGC) has given recommendations in respect of 14 RECs. Declaration of institutions as Deemed University is a statutory process for which several conditions have to be met. RECs would be granted Deemed to be University status only after they change their Memorandum of Association and Rules as per the guidelines issued by University Grants Commission.

Statement

Regional Engineering Colleges

Sl.No.	Name of the RECs/States
1.	Motilal Nehru Regional Engineering College, Allahabad-211004 (UttarPradesh)
2.	Maulana Azad College of Technology, Bhopal-462007 (Madhya Pradesh)
3.	Regional Engineering College, Calicut-673601 (Kerala)
4.	Regional Engineering College, Durgapur-713209 (West Bengal)
5.	Regional Engineering College, Hamirpur-177005 (Himachal Pradesh)
6.	Malaviya Regional Engineering College, Jaipur-302017 (Rajasthan)
7.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Regional Engineering College, Jalandhar-144027 (Punjab)
8.	Regional Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur-831014 (Jharkhand)
9.	Regional Engineering College, Kurukshetra-132119 (Haryana)
10.	Visvesvaraya Regional College of Engineering, Nagpur-440011 (Maharashtra)
11.	Regional Engineering College, Rourkela-769008 (Orissa)
12.	Regional Engineering College, Silchar-788010 (Assam)
13.	Regional Engineering College, Srinagar-190009 (J&K)
14.	Sardar Vallabhbhai Regional College of Engg. & Technology, Surat 395007 (Gujarat)
15.	Karnataka Regional Engineering College, Surathkal-574157 (Karnataka)
16.	Regional Engineering College, Tiruchirappalli-620015 (Tamil Nadu)
17.	Regional Engineering College, Warangal-506004 (Andhra Pradesh)

Disability Act, 1995

3607. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment of the working of the Disability Act, 1995